

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ARA-06

EA-06 NEA-10 OMB-01 /091 W
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FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4663

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 CAPE TOWN 0588

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, SF, WA

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICAN REPLY TO JOINT US, UK, FRENCH AIDE

MEMOIRE ON NAMIBIA

DEPT PASS OTHER POSTS AS APPROPRIATE

REF: CAPE TOWN 587

1. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF AIDE MEMOIRE ON NAMIBIA WHICH
SA FOREIGN MINISTER MULLER HANDED TO UK AMBASSADOR BOTTOMLEY,
FRENCH CHARGE HOMO AND ME AT 1040 AM MAY 27 IN REPLY TO THE
TRIPARTITE AIDE MEMOIRE LEFT WITH HIM ON APRIL 22, 1975.
BEGIN TEXT

THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT HAS THE HONOUR TO REFER
TO THE JOINT AIDE-MEMOIRE PRESENTED TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN
FOREIGN MINISTER ON 22 APRIL 1975 AND SETTING OUT THE VIEWS
OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF FRANCE; THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN REGARD TO THE QUESTION OF SOUTH

WEST AFRICA.

AS IS WELL-KNOWN, THE BASIS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT'S APPROACH TO THE QUESTION OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA IS THAT IT IS FOR THE PEOPLES OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA THEMSELVES TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN POLITICAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL FUTURE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR OWN FREELY EXPRESSED CHOICE. THIS PRESUPPOSES THAT THEY SHOULD EXERCISE THEIR CHOICE FREELY AND WITHOUT INTERFERENCE FROM SOUTH AFRICA, THE UNITED NATIONS OR ANY OTHER OUTSIDE ENTITY. ALL OPTIONS ARE THEREFORE OPEN TO THEM - INCLUDING THAT OF INDEPENDENCE AS ONE STATE IF THAT IS WHAT THEY SHOULD CHOOSE.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS APPROACH ANY POLITICAL GROUP IN THE TERRITORY IS FREE TO CAMPAIGN FOR AND PROPAGATE ANY CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES IT LIKES AND TO PARTICIPATE WITHOUT HINDRANCE IN ANY PEACEABLE POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING THE ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE PROPOSED CONFERENCE ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL FUTURE OF THE TERRITORY, PROVIDED ONLY THAT THEY DO SO WITHIN THE REQUIREMENTS OF LAW AND ORDER.

WHILE IT IS THE EARNEST HOPE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA THAT THE INHABITANTS WILL INDEED EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THEIR FUTURE IN AS SHORT A TIME AS POSSIBLE AND WHILE IT WILL DO EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO REACH EARLY AGREEMENT IN THIS MATTER, IT IS CLEARLY FOR THEM THEMSELVES TO DECIDE AT WHAT PACE THEY WISH TO MOVE. ENCOURAGING PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN THIS DIRECTION. FOLLOWING UPON THE INITIATIVE OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE RULING NATIONAL PARTY IN SOUTH WEST AFRICA TOWARDS THE END OF LAST YEAR, THE REPRESENTATIVES OF MORE THAN 80 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL POPULATION HAVE ALREADY DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE AND PRESENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

AS FAR AS THE QUESTION RAISED IN REGARD TO SOUTH AFRICA'S WITHDRAWAL FROM THE TERRITORY AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TRANSFER OF POWER IS CONCERNED, IT FOLLOWS FROM THE POLICY ENUNCIATED ABOVE THAT SOUTH AFRICA WILL REMAIN IN AND CONTINUE TO ADMINISTER THE TERRITORY ONLY AS LONG AS

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THE INHABITANTS SO WISH.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT HAS REPEATEDLY STATED THAT IT RECOGNIZES THE DISTINCT INTERNATIONAL STATUS OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA AND THAT IT DOES NOT CLAIM ONE INCH OF THE TERRITORY FOR ITSELF. ITS SOLE CONCERN HAS BEEN TO DEVELOP THE TERRITORY IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF ALL ITS INHABITANTS AND TO PREPARE THEM FOR THE ORDERLY EXERCISE

OF THEIR RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION. IN HIS STATEMENT TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON 24 OCTOBER 1974 THE SOUTH AFRICAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS BRIEFLY OUTLINED SOME OF SOUTH AFRICA'S MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS IN THIS REGARD.

HE POINTED OUT THE FOLLOWING:

"AN INVESTMENT CORPORATION FOR BLACKS HAS DRAWN UP AN ECONOMIC PROGRAMME WITH THE OBJECT OF CREATING 5000 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE BLACKS OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA DURING THE PERIOD 1972-1977, ENTAILING A CAPITAL INVESTMENT OF OVER R22 MILLION.

A TOTAL OF R139 MILLION HAS SO FAR BEEN SPENT ON 177 DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES CONSTRUCTED AND OPERATED BY THE STATE THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

THE NUMBER OF SCHOOLS FOR BLACKS AND COLOUREDS HAS INCREASED FROM 313 IN 1960 TO 592 IN 1973; THE NUMBER OF TEACHERS FROM 1310 IN 1960 TO 3453 IN 1973; THE NUMBER OF PUPILS FROM 43000 IN 1960 TO 140000 IN 1973.

THERE ARE 1550 COLOURED AND BLACK NURSES IN THE TERRITORY.

TOTAL INVESTMENT IN RESPECT OF FIXED AND MOVABLE ASSETS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS AMOUNTED IN 1973 TO R170 MILLION. TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON ROADS FROM 1953 TO 1973 AMOUNTED TO 4243 MILLION. THE VALUE OF TELEPHONE, TELEGRAPH AND RADIO INSTALLATIONS
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IN THE TERRITORY AMOUNTED TO R35 MILLION IN 1973.

THE TOTAL COST OF RUNNING THE TERRITORY NOW AMOUNTS TO R341 MILLION PER ANNUM. IN EVALUATING THESE FIGURES, IT SHOULD BE REMEMBERED THAT THE TOTAL PRESENT POPULATION IS ONLY 850000."

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INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01

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FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 CAPE TOWN 0588

THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WOULD ADD THAT IT IS AT
PRESENT GIVING ACTIVE CONSIDERATION TO ASSISTING THE
INHABITANTS WITH THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE WATER
RESOURCES OF THE TERRITORY AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF SOME
R333 000 000.

IN HIS STATEMENT THE SOUTH AFRICAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
ALSO OUTLINED THE MANY EFFORTS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT
SINCE 1951 TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS IN FINDING
AN ACCEPTABLE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATION ON THE ISSUE OF SOUTH
WEST AFRICA. DESPITE SOUTH AFRICA'S EFFORTS IN THIS
DIRECTION, THE ATTITUDE OF THE UNITED NATIONS TOWARDS SOUTH
AFRICA HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY HOSTILE AND UNCOMPROMISING
AND LAST YEAR CULMINATED IN THE ILLEGAL SUSPENSION OF HER
PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE 29TH GENERAL
ASSEMBLY. NEVERTHELESS, AND IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT THE
SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT CANNOT ACCEPT UNITED NATIONS
SUPERVISION IN RESPECT OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA, IT REMAINS
PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE WITH A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE REPRESENTATIVE
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OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, BE IT DR. ESCHER OR SOMEBODY ELSE,
IN ORDER THAT HE MAY ACQUAINT HIMSELF WITH THE DEVELOPMENT
OF THE PROCESS OF SELF-DETERMINATION IN THE TERRITORY.

SIMILARLY, THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT REMAINS PREPARED TO WELCOME LEADERS OF AFRICA, EITHER PERSONALLY OR THROUGH THEIR REPRESENTATIVES, WHO MAY WISH TO VISIT SOUTH WEST AFRICA IN ORDER TO ACQUAINT THEMSELVES AT FIRST HAND WITH CONDITIONS IN THE TERRITORY.

FURTHERMORE, IF THE AFRICAN CHAIRMAN OF THE UNITED NATIONS COUNCIL FOR SOUTH WEST AFRICA AND THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY ARE INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING THE PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE TERRITORY WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER THEY ARE WELCOME TO DO SO. THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER WOULD IN THAT CASE ALSO BE PREPARED TO REQUEST THE TRUE LEADERS IN THE TERRITORY TO TALK TO THEM. ON THE OTHER HAND SHOULD THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE WISH TO RECEIVE THESE LEADERS IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO OBTAIN FROM THEM FIRST HAND INFORMATION ON CONDITIONS AND THE PROGRESS OF SELF-DETERMINATION IN THE TERRITORY, THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WILL DO ALL IT CAN TO MAKE SUCH VISITS POSSIBLE.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WISHES TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THE REAL ATTEMPTS BEING MADE TO PROMOTE BETTER UNDERSTANDING AMONG ALL THE PEOPLES IN THE TERRITORY. ON 21 MARCH 1975 THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY IN WINDHOEK ADOPTED A MOTION UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTING THE ENDEAVOURS OF ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE GOOD HUMAN RELATIONS, PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE AND HUMAN DIGNITY AMONG ALL THE INHABITANTS OF THE TERRITORY AND REQUESTING IT TO GIVE ATTENTION TO MEASURES AND PRACTICES STANDING IN THE WAY OF THE ADVANCEMENT OF GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN BLACK AND WHITE. A STUDY GROUP WHICH PURSUANT TO THIS MOTION WAS APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE LEADERS OF ALL GROUPS, OTHER LEGISLATION WHICH AFFECTS RACE RELATIONS, COMMENCED ITS WORK ON 2 MAY AND IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN THE FIRST WEEK OF JUNE.

APART FROM THESE DEVELOPMENTS, ON 9 APRIL 1975 VARIOUS
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PROCLAMATIONS LONG IN FORCE IN THE TERRITORY WERE REPEALED OR AMENDED BECAUSE THEY WERE OBSOLETE OR EMBODIED UNNECESSARY RESTRICTIVE OR WHAT MIGHT BE TERMED DISCRIMINATORY ASPECTS.

IN CONCLUSION, THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WISHES TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL IS THE MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY AND THAT THE ONLY THREAT TO PEACE AND SECURITY IN SOUTH WEST AFRICA DERIVES FROM COUNTRIES OUTSIDE ITS BORDERS. SOUTH WEST AFRICA IS PART OF THE CONSTELLATION

OF THE COUNTRIES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, WHOSE LEADERS ARE EARNESTLY SEEKING A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS OF OUR SUB-CONTINENT. THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA EARNESTLY BELIEVES THAT GIVEN THE NECESSARY TIME AND GOODWILL, THE SIGNIFICANT AND CONSTRUCTIVE DEVELOPMENTS NOW TAKING PLACE WILL BE CROWNED WITH SUCCESS AND SHOULD BE WELCOMED AND ENCOURAGED BY THE LEADERS OF NATIONS EVERYWHERE AND MORE PARTICULARLY BY THOSE LEADERS OF AFRICA WHO ARE EQUALLY CONCERNED TO FIND SOLUTIONS BY WAY OF COMMUNICATION AND CO-OPERATION AND TO AVOID THE FORBIDDING ALTERNATIVE OF CONFRONTATION. END TEXT

2. MULLER SAID THAT A REPLY TO THE UN SYG'S LETTER WHICH TRANSMITTED TO THE SAG A COPY OF SC RESOLUTION 366 OF 17 DEC 1974,) WAS ALSO BEING DELIVERED TO THE SYG IN NEW YORK TODAY. HE SAID SAG WILL MAKE PUBLIC ITS REPLY TO SYG AFTER DELIVERY BUT DOES NOT INTEND TO RELEASE TEXT OF AIDE MEMOIRE GIVEN TO US, ALTHOUGH SAG MAY ALLUDE TO FACT THAT IT HAS REPLIED TO TRIPARTITE APPROACH. WHILE TEXT OF REPLY TO SYG WILL DIFFER FROM THAT OF AIDE MEMOIRE, SUBSTANCE WILL PRESUMABLY BE THE SAME. COMMENT FOLLOS SEPTTEL.

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PFOR, SF, WA, UN
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